

8

No. 24

State Charities Aid Association.

ADDRESS

FROM THE

STATE CHARITIES AID ASSOCIATION

TO ITS

LOCAL VISITING COMMITTEES

THROUGHOUT THE

STATE OF NEW YORK

JULY, 1880

NEW YORK

6 EAST 14TH STREET

"*Resolved*: That a Special Committee of four, with power to add to their number, and of which the President of the Association shall be the chairman, be appointed to prepare an address to be issued by the Central Association to its Visiting Committees throughout the State, informing them of the severance of the connection between the State Board of Charities and this Association, and stating to them the present position of the Association."

[*Extract from minutes of Association meeting, June 1, 1880.*]

This Committee was composed of Miss Louisa Lee Schuyler, Chairman, Miss A. H. Woolsey, Prof. T. W. Dwight, Rev. H. C. Potter, D.D., Mrs. Benoni Lockwood, Mr. F. L. Olmsted, Miss S. M. Van Amringe, Mr. Howard Potter.

CONTENTS.

Introduction.

Official Supervision of Charities of the State of New York.

State Charities Aid Association organized.

Relation with the State Board of Charities.

The State Board severs the connection.

Assembly Bill, No. 456.

Necessity of unofficial service.

Organization and Methods of the State Charities Aid Association.

Results.

Outlook.

ADDRESS
FROM THE
STATE CHARITIES AID ASSOCIATION
TO ITS
LOCAL VISITING COMMITTEES

*To the Members of the Local Visiting Committees of the
State Charities Aid Association of the State of New York :*

The connection which has existed during the past eight years between the State Board of Charities and the State Charities Aid Association has been severed.

In making this announcement we take occasion to give the history of that connection, and to emphasize once more the importance of volunteer work like our own, and the principles which govern it as distinguished from that of all official service.

To determine in what way civilized states shall provide for paupers and for those dependent upon charity, is one of the most difficult and perplexing problems of statesmanship. No method in any country has been found which is not subject to mismanagement at the hands of the officials employed to administer it. No system of general official supervision has proved adequate to prevent serious abuses. The evil tenden-

cies of routine methods can only be kept in check by a vigilant public opinion. A vigilant public opinion can only be maintained and made effective by the labors of volunteers, organized to ascertain the actual condition of State Charitable Institutions, and when necessary, to call public attention to what is passing in them. The reports of supervisory bodies in official relation with these institutions do not, in the long run, answer the purpose, because such bodies seldom in any country find it politic to urge measures much in advance of the already-formed sentiments of the authorities to whom they owe their existence.

With this brief indication of the necessity which has given rise to our Association, we proceed to state how the special conditions have arisen which now make advisable a review and discussion of our work and its principles.

OFFICIAL SUPERVISION OF CHARITIES OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

The official supervision of the charities of the State of New York is exercised through a Board created in 1867 by Act of Legislature, under the title of the "Board of State Commissioners of Public Charities of the State of New York." By this Act eight Commissioners, one living in each Judicial District of the State, were to be appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate. They were to serve without compensation; travelling expenses, office expenses and clerk-hire being paid from the public treasury. They were authorized to make thorough investigation of the management of all charitable and correctional institutions receiving State aid, except prisons; each such institution to be

visited at least once a year, and each city or county almshouse or poor-house once in two years; the Board to report annually to the Legislature. (Chapter 951, Laws of 1867.) By subsequent Act certain State officials were made members, *ex-officio*, of the Board.

STATE CHARITIES AID ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED.

In May, 1872, the State Charities Aid Association was organized. It was formed for the purpose of bringing into operation the great and hitherto undeveloped force of volunteer effort, and of public opinion, in the work of improving the condition of our public charities. The serious evils and abuses arising from their systems of management were scarcely known to the people, and were of such magnitude that only an enlightened and organized public opinion could cope with them. The Association proposed to form this public opinion in two ways: 1st. By the organization of Local Visiting Committees throughout the State, to visit frequently and systematically the public institutions of charity in their respective Counties. 2d. By means of a Central Association, having its headquarters in New York city, whose duty should be to organize Visiting Committees, to study the reports received from them, and to base upon these returns such general measures as might tend to remedy the evils complained of; also to collect and disseminate information upon subjects connected with public charity and the reduction of pauperism.*

* Constitution State Charities Aid Association, First Annual Report, 1873.

RELATION WITH THE STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES.

When the Association was organized, the Board of State Commissioners (which had been in operation five years), had no visitors, and no system of inspection for the fifty-six county poor-houses, and six city alms-houses of this State, other than the biennial visitation by one or more of eight Commissioners as required by law.

The plan proposed by us, and carried out, was specifically, that Local Visiting Committees organized by us for the various Counties of the State, should inspect their poor-houses and alms-houses carefully and frequently, reporting to our central body once a month ; and that these reports, collected and condensed, should form part of an annual report to be made by us to the State Board for the information of that body. Our sole connection with the State Board consisted in our making a volunteer report annually.

Early in our history, we found that among the questions which must occupy our central body, was one concerning the best mode of defining and protecting the right of our local visitors to enter the poor-houses of their Counties. Exposure of abuses very naturally roused, in some quarters, official jealousies and prejudice ; but the unjustifiable exclusion of our visitors from the Westchester County Poor-house, in January, 1873 (an example which, if generally followed, would destroy our means of usefulness), made it necessary for us to apply, without delay, to the Legislature for assistance. Our Special Committee on Legislation determined, with the full consent of the Association, and the concurrence of the Board of State Commissioners, to ask the Legislature to confer the power of appointing visitors, not upon our As-

sociation, but upon the State Board, as an addition to the legal power already held by the State Board. An understanding between our central body and the representatives of the State Board was had, previous to our securing this legal power of appointment for the Board, to the effect that if the bill became a law, the Board would appoint, as visitors, persons nominated by us ; and this agreement was thoroughly explained to, and understood by, those members of the Legislature who promoted the passage of the bill.*

Drafted by the chairman of our Committee on Legislation, the bill was introduced ; was passed by the Senate, May 14, 1873 ; was taken up out of turn by unanimous consent of the Assembly on one of the last days of the session, May 21st, and passed ; and receiving the signature of Governor Dix the same day, became law under the title of " An Act further to define the powers and duties of the Board of State Commissioners of Public Charities, and to change the name of the Board to the State Board of Charities." [Chapter 571, Laws of 1873.] Three new commissioners were to be added to the Board, making the number eleven, and the Governor selected as one of them, one of our own members. It was hoped that the connection thus more closely drawn between the Board and ourselves, would make the work of both bodies more efficient, and would give our own Local Visiting Committees all necessary legal support.

In accordance with the agreement, the visitors nominated by us have, since 1873, received their appointment from the State Board of Charities, thus ensuring for them the legal right of entrance into the public institutions of charities.

* Second Annual Report of the State Charities Aid Association to the State Board of Charities, March 1, 1874.

These visitors have furnished both bodies with valuable information through their duplicate reports to the Association and to the Board.

THE STATE BOARD SEVERES THE CONNECTION.

According to the Act of 1873, the visitors appointed by the State Board are subject to such regulations as the Board may prescribe ; and it is through certain new rules and regulations recently issued to their visitors, fifty of whom are our visitors also, that the Board has sought to restrain these visitors from reporting to us as heretofore, thus practically effecting a separation between the two bodies.

These rules read : " Reports and communications submitted or to be submitted to the Board by members, or by any person or persons holding appointment from the Board, shall not be submitted elsewhere, or published, without the consent of the Board or Executive Committee." [By-law No. XXIV, State Board of Charities.] And again : " All information obtained by visitors in the discharge of their official duties shall be the exclusive property of the Board."

No copy of these rules was sent to our Association by the Board. They were brought to our notice by those members of our Local Visiting Committee for New York County who, nominated by us and appointed by the Board, acted as visitors for both bodies. Subsequently a communication of March 15, 1880, from the New York Commissioners of the State Board, made it necessary for these visitors to decide with which body they should continue to act. All but one decided to remain with the Association. Under date of April 1st, they say in answer that, "having been for many years

members of the State Charities Aid Association, and in cordial sympathy with the objects of that Association, and with its methods of work, they are not willing to sever their connection with it, and must therefore respectfully decline a re-appointment from the State Board of Charities ; while at the same time they cordially offer to the Board any information which they may obtain as visitors for the State Charities Aid Association, and any assistance which the Board may at any time desire from them."

A conference held between representatives of our Association and of the State Board only served to make it clear that the by-laws in question had irretrievably separated us, and that owing to fundamental differences in methods of work employed respectively by the two bodies, it would be unwise to attempt the reëstablishment of any organic connection.

Good-feeling, and a desire for coöperation in the work of the future, were expressed on both sides during the conference.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 456.

Our visitors having thus been deprived of their legal right of visitation by this action of the State Board, it became necessary to secure it for them from some other source. A bill was drafted, having the twofold purpose of incorporating the State Charities Aid Association, and of obtaining for our Local Visiting Committees the legal right to visit the public institutions of charities. The corporate powers asked for were simply the ordinary provisions and restrictions of other incorporated benevolent societies. The principal and important feature of the bill was its fifth section, which authorized the Justices of the Supreme Court, each or any of them, at

their discretion, to grant to such persons as may be nominated by the managers of our Association, orders to visit and inspect such Public Charitable Institutions as shall be specified in said order, for one year from the date on which it shall have been granted, unless sooner revoked. [Assembly Bill No. 456.]

A precedent for such a measure was found in the charter of the New York Prison Association, granted by the Legislature in 1846, and which conferred like powers on the judges to appoint visitors nominated by the Prison Association, for the County Jails and State Prisons. For over thirty years the plan has worked effectively and harmoniously in coöperation with official supervision of prisons.

Our bill was introduced March 11, 1880; and the President of the State Board of Charities was officially notified of its introduction. It passed the Assembly, May 5th, by a vote of 94 to 3; was sent to the Senate the same day, and was subsequently reported favorably from the committee of the Senate to which it had been referred.

At this juncture an unexpected opposition appeared, which, coming within a few days of the close of the session, proved sufficient to defeat the bill.

This opposition came from members of the State Board of Charities, who took the ground that the visitors of that Board were all-sufficient, and that to grant any legal right of entrance to visitors of the Association was unnecessary.

NECESSITY OF UNOFFICIAL SERVICE.

The question is thus distinctly brought before the people of the State, whether it is best that its poor-houses should be

looked into only by official agents, and by such citizens as may be admitted by the favor of poor-house officers ; or whether our people wish themselves to take part in seeing that their public charitable institutions are properly managed.

We maintain that it is not best that our poor-houses should be subject to official inspection alone ; because all official methods are of their nature liable to become perfunctory, and have a tendency toward deterioration, which can be permanently and effectively checked only by systematic scrutiny from without.

For instance : Official service is of necessity accompanied by set forms ; is bound by official etiquette ; runs in official grooves ; and “ the machine power needed to carry on any institution tends always to deepen its own ruts.”

Rules may require that reports be made only to a State government, at distant intervals. Meanwhile abuses are left undisturbed, and the public interest and the public conscience slumber. Any system which takes from the great body of citizens an immediate influence on the questions which so nearly concern them, must have, more or less, this evil result.

Moreover, we cannot help recognizing that all official service in this country is, at the present time, under a strong pressure to yield something of its legitimate intent, and to bend to what are deemed “ political necessities ;” and that no means have yet been found as efficient for counteracting this pressure as that of systematic unofficial scrutiny of the details of all official operations.

Public affairs in this country are emphatically the business of all of us. The structure of our government was founded

and built up on the assumption that our citizens were intelligent enough, informed enough, and disinterested enough to concern themselves actively and efficiently with its administration. It is the government of the people and by the people; and in every department of it where indifference and ignorance as to its workings prevail, or wherever a class of men, or a set of office-holders has been allowed to conduct public affairs uninspected and uncriticised by the public, corruption and incompetency, with their legitimate result of neglect and inhumanity toward the helpless and suffering classes, have always sooner or later shown themselves.

We have only to recall the immense numbers of poor who come under the care of the public officers, to understand what an important department of our State and County government our public charities are;* how weighty are the humane and economic interests involved, and how costly, and often cruel and morally disastrous, must be the administration which, in any considerable degree, is corrupt, lax or ignorant. For instance, there are nearly nine thousand insane persons alone in the public institutions of this State. It is our duty to know whether these persons have the benefit of every alleviation known to science and to humanity; whether our enormous expenditures for insane asylums and other public institutions secure, in all cases, the most skilful and kindly care.

The money with which these public institutions are supported does not belong to the officers and the inspecting boards. It is money raised by taxation, which is held in stewardship, and every citizen is under obligation to inform himself as to

* Average number of paupers in State, City and County Institutions during the year 1878, 43,712; Twelfth Annual Report, New York State Board of Charities, 1879.

how it is spent. Officialism cannot guarantee the judicious, economical and wholesome administration of public funds. The people from whose pockets the money comes must exercise the right of constant scrutiny. Even upright and honest men are sometimes tempted to look upon the institutions they manage as in the nature of a private enterprise, and to resent any enquiry or criticism, precisely as they would in the case of their own private business. But charities are public trusts ; they are supported by public money ; and their management involves grave public as well as personal responsibility.

It is not drawing a sound distinction between official and volunteer service to say that the difference consists wholly in the one being a paid, and the other an unpaid service. Public officers may receive no salaries, and yet must be bound by the limitations of the statutes which create them. Their agents may serve without pay, and yet be obliged to work within very exact lines marked out for them by their superiors. All persons appointed by an official Board as inspectors, are official personages, whether they receive salaries or not. It is not a question of salary or of motive which marks the distinction between an official visitor and a volunteer visitor. It is the difference of the *method of work* pursued by the bodies they represent, and which differs and must always differ, under the best circumstances, as widely as the existing normal difference between all official and voluntarily constituted organizations.

There must be a certain mechanism and organization of government in these matters ; and there is imperative need of a regular, responsible, well-appointed and well-systematized

official service, with its corps of official inspectors. But neither the methods nor the results of official work, important as these may be, can ever be made a substitute for that free service which every true American citizen feels to be at once his right, his duty and his privilege to render in some shape or other to his country.

The peculiar value of volunteer service is found in its vigorous, spontaneous and quickening character. It not only supplements the deficiencies of official service in our public charities, but, by its vigilance, prevents that service from suffering degeneracy. Its public rebukes of wrong-doing have an efficiency with public employees, which may not be felt in the tardy or formal strictures of official authority.

It educates an enlightened class in the community from which public officers of charity may eventually be drawn ; and it creates a strong public sentiment in favor of upholding good management of our charities, and of any judicious expenditure in their behalf which may be necessary on the part of the State.

Only by thorough and constant inspection, and prompt report can the public be kept interested and informed as to the condition of its institutions. There are no pigeon-holes for the reports of volunteer visitors. Volunteers have no cause for keeping silent ; they have no personal interest to serve, no political favors to ask, no one to fear, no one to flatter.

Questions are constantly arising in connection with the administration of poor laws, with the care of the insane, the sick, the little children who come into the hands of State or County officers ; questions which, all over the world, in their

different aspects, as their solutions affect the political, social, economic or moral condition of communities, are claiming and receiving the most serious consideration and the most profound thought. To this grave task the volunteer workers contribute their share of thought, time and knowledge. Furthermore, they represent the public concern and support; they bring the enthusiasm, the leisurely application, the absence of perfunctory methods of observation, the freedom from routine ways of thinking and feeling, which are essential to the accomplishment of real reforms. The jails in England owed their first searching examination and subsequent improvement to a volunteer worker, Howard.

Every intelligent, conscientious man or woman who visits a public charitable institution brings within its walls a ray of moral and mental sunlight; and none of us doubt that the fullest light should be thrown into every corner and nook of our public charities. Publicity in these matters is the safeguard and assurance of upright and just administration.

The soundness of the views thus expressed has been amply demonstrated by the results of the work of our Association, which we shall presently recite. Before doing so, however, it is necessary to describe briefly the organization of the Association and its methods of operation.

ORGANIZATION AND METHODS OF THE STATE CHARITIES AID ASSOCIATION.

The objects of the Association, as stated in its Constitution (First Annual Report, 1873), are "1st. To promote an active public interest in the New York State Institutions of Public Charity, with a view to the physical, mental and moral im-

provement of their pauper inmates. 2d. To make the present pauper system more efficient, and to bring about such reforms in it as may be in accordance with the most enlightened views of Christianity, science and philanthropy."

In support of these objects the Association seeks to unite the best thought of the students of social science with the executive ability of the practical active worker. The former is more especially represented by the Central Association, having its headquarters in New York city; the latter by the Local Visiting Committees, organized by and reporting to the Central Association, and extending over the State.

Local Visiting Committees.—This most important part of our work, the visiting of the public institutions of charity, is conducted through the agency of a large number of independent and yet associated volunteer visitors, residing near the alms-houses and poor-houses of their respective Counties; men and women representing the best elements in their communities; of all religious sects and of both political parties; of recognized ability and purity of character, disinterested in their aims, investigating our charities with the keenness of eyesight and freedom of motive which are most surely found in non-official organizations; using the local press, but always working within such well-devised restrictions as cannot fail to make the volunteer system, and the publicity which is its necessary accompaniment, efficient for the public good.

These groups of visitors, entitled LOCAL VISITING COMMITTEES, are expected to visit frequently and systematically their respective alms-houses and poor-houses, making a

monthly report to the Central Association. They are instructed to put themselves into communication with the County officials, and to establish harmonious relations with them.* They are to respect the rules and regulations of the establishments they visit, and to make no complaints of mismanagement to the employees of institutions. Should it be necessary to call attention to existing abuses, the complaint is transmitted through the officers of the Visiting Committee directly to the responsible authorities, to the City Commissioners of Charity and the County Superintendents of the Poor. Experience warrants the belief that mismanagement and instances of harsh and cruel treatment in the institutions under their care, if brought to the notice of these officials, courteously and in a spirit of coöperation, will generally be rectified where there is an earnest desire for faithful performance of duty. The Superintendents and Commissioners gladly avail themselves of the detailed information afforded by the visitors (which frequently they have not the time to obtain for themselves), to instruct their subordinates, thus maintaining their own official dignity, and with the result of greatly benefiting their institutions. Where obstacles have persistently been thrown in the way of investigation, this has often been the first indication of the existence of harsh treatment and corruption in those institutions.

After all personal efforts on the part of our Visiting Committees have failed to abate the evils repeatedly brought to the notice of those responsible for them, then, and not till then, is public opinion to be evoked through the press.

No legal authority to enable the visitors themselves to

* Handbook for Visitors to the Poor-house, p. 10, S. C. A. A. Pub. No. 12, 1877.

rectify the mismanagement, and to correct the abuses they may be obliged to witness, is asked for or desired, as this would subvert the responsibility of the officer in charge. Our plan is in entire accordance with the principle of local self-government ; for, by the appointment, as visitors, of men and women who possess the confidence of their community, the responsibility of selecting trustworthy officials, and of providing means for the suitable care of pauper dependants, is pressed back upon the County where this responsibility belongs, by its own tax-payers and citizens.

Two things only are required by our visitors, viz. : freedom of sight and freedom of speech ; in other words, that they shall have legally conferred upon them, the *right of entrance* into the charitable institutions which are supported by themselves and the communities they represent. This granted, all reforms are possible with earnest, volunteer visitors ; for this means fearless speaking ; it means throwing light into dark places ; it means the formation of an enlightened public opinion—that mighty power which, in a country like our own, is the final arbiter, deciding, sooner or later, every case which may be brought before it, in the interest of justice and humanity.

Central Association.—Our Central body was organized in the city of New York, in 1872, with an original membership of forty-eight, now increased to one hundred and thirty-six members. Composed principally of men and women of large practical experience in philanthropic work, of all sects and both political parties, the members of the Central Association began their work by organizing County Visiting Committees, and by collecting for their use information from both home

and foreign sources. For although the primary duty of the Central Association is to organize Visiting Committees, and to study the reports received from them (with the object of devising general measures of relief), while encouraging the committees to insist upon reform by local measures of their own, the Central Association aims also so to aid in shaping and educating public opinion that the methods chosen shall be the wisest and best methods known, of dealing not only with the treatment of the pauper inmates of institutions, but with the great question of pauperism in general.

Dividing our work into four departments, represented by four Standing Committees—on Children, on Hospitals, on Adult able-bodied Paupers, on the Elevation of the Poor in their Homes—the members of these Standing Committees were expected to make themselves familiar with the best thought of the day upon these subjects, by studying the literature connected with them, and by personal inspection of the best systems of poor relief, and the wisest measures for the elevation of the poor to be found in this country and in Europe. They were to use the information thus obtained for the benefit, not of our Visiting Committees only, but for the general public, disseminating it through the press, through public meetings, and through the publications of the Association.

Emanating directly from the people, supported by the people, receiving no appropriations from state, city or county treasury, it is the desire of the Association in the future, as in the past, to maintain its distinctive character as a purely volunteer organization. We believe that the public benefit derived from such volunteer agencies will, sooner or later, be recognized in other States as well as our own, and that like

volunteer service will be looked upon, in its separate capacity, as a necessary and valuable adjunct to regular official service throughout our land.

All reform movements in this country, which have any vitality, must, in their growth, keep step with public opinion. In the degree in which public opinion is enlightened or darkened must any reform be advanced or hindered; and the measure of the success of the Association is simply the measure of the amount of sound public opinion in support of its objects which it has been able to create and to formulate.

Judged by this standard we now propose to show how the work of the Association, through the combined efforts of the Central Association and of its Local Visiting Committees, has taken root and extended itself.

RESULTS.

In furtherance of its primary object, the Association has, during the past eight years, organized forty Local Visiting Committees for the public charitable institutions in various counties of the State. Thirty-one of these are now in operation, several having branches on out-door relief. These thirty-one committees cover the counties of Albany, Cayuga, Columbia, Delaware, Dutchess, Essex, Greene, Jefferson, Kings, Livingston, Monroe, New York (5), Orange (2), Otsego, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rensselaer, Schenectady, St. Lawrence, Suffolk, Sullivan, Tompkins, Ulster, Westchester, Yates.

Among practical results may first be named the sweeping away, from one of our counties, of the last remnant of the

old barbarous system of *farming out the poor to the lowest bidder*.

The unceasing efforts of the Association to withdraw pauper children from poor-houses, and poor-house influences, aroused the public sympathy, and aided largely in procuring the passage, in 1875, of what is known as "The Children's Law." This law, with its subsequent amendments, removed all children over two years of age from poor-houses and alms-houses, and forbids these institutions to receive them. The enforcement and non-evasion of the law are greatly due, in many counties, to the vigilance of our Visiting Committees.

The Industrial Home, at Kingston, was established by our Committee after the passage of "The Children's Law." Within three years from 80 to 100 children have been received in it, 50 of whom have been placed in homes in families.

The Temporary Home for Pauper Children, recently opened in Westchester Co. (whence the children, under proper supervision, are to be placed in family homes), is a direct outcome of the work of the Association.

In behalf of the Sick in Pauper Hospitals, we mention, as part of the work of the Visiting Committee for New York County, the "Training School for Nurses attached to Bellevue Hospital," the beneficial influence of which is felt throughout the United States. In 1878, this school, with its staff of trained nurses, nursed 2,103 pauper patients in Bellevue and in the Emergency Hospitals. It has furnished 20 trained nurses as heads of other schools or matrons of hospitals; and has, since its formation in 1873, received from voluntary contributions \$71,134.00.

The removal from Bellevue Hospital of the maternity service to pavilions on Blackwell's Island, and the opening in New York city of a special Emergency Hospital for maternity cases are also instances of what has been accomplished by this Committee.

Within two years, from Charity Hospital on Blackwell's Island, 138 fallen girls have been placed in various homes by one of our visitors, and 25 have been returned to their families.

Boxes for daily papers, into which travellers are asked to drop their once-read morning papers, for the sick in our public hospitals, have been placed in twelve of the principal railway depots and ferry houses of New York City. These newspapers, averaging daily 300, are collected and distributed every day. The same Committee receives elsewhere books and pamphlets, and reports lately having sent packages of reading matter to 74 different institutions.

In Queens County radical changes in the administration of the public charities have been made; and this county, through the influence of our Visiting Committee, has re-organized, on another and improved basis, its entire system of poor relief.

The law, "An Act concerning Tramps," passed by the Legislature last winter, was drafted, and its passage procured, by a committee of the Association. If enforced, it will rid the public highways of the State of this worthless and objectionable class of persons. (Chap. 176, Laws of 1880.)

In another department of our work, that of the Elevation of the Poor in their Homes, which includes the visiting, by our Committees, of recipients of out-door relief, we may claim

the improved systems of district visiting among the poor in Richmond County, and in Newburgh, Rochester and elsewhere.

In Castleton, Richmond County, where, in 1874, the Superintendent of the Poor accepted the assistance of our Committee in investigating the circumstances of those applying for relief, the result was a reduction of nearly one-third of the county expenses for out-door relief in that township.

The recent movement, in the winter of 1878-79, in reform of the Tenement House System of New York City, received its first impulse from our Association. The results thus far of this movement are shown in the formation of the "Improved Dwellings Association," with a capital of \$300,000, to be conducted on commercial principles; and in the enactment of important amendments to the Tenement House Act, which have brought about very great improvements in the sanitary condition of the homes of the poor in New York City. "The New York Sanitary Reform Society," incorporated in 1879, and working in coöperation with the City Board of Health, is also an outgrowth of the same movement.

The above illustrations of the practical results of the work of the Association, while showing what has been accomplished, is also an earnest of what may be expected in the future from such a large and powerful body of volunteer workers.

We do not speak in detail of the improved condition of many county poor-houses and infirmaries; nor of the alleviation of the sufferings of the pauper insane still in our poor-houses; (the particulars of which are given in our annual re-

ports) but we would call attention to the coöperation with our visitors of the local officials, indicated by the mere enumeration of the reforms given above, and which is one of the most gratifying testimonies to the value of our work.

There is no record of the innumerable acts of kindness shown by our visitors to convalescents leaving hospital ; of clothing obtained for some and employment for others ; of special treatment procured for crippled children and other patients ; of persons sent home to their families in this and other States, or to Ireland and Germany ; but there are instances enough of these, and other like acts of mercy, to give an insight into the manifold blessings to thousands of sick and suffering and helpless souls, which have followed in the footsteps of our visitors.

The Association has collected and catalogued, for the use of its members throughout the State, a Library of more than a thousand volumes, in several languages, relating to systematic charities, poor laws, hospital management and kindred subjects. Many of these are most valuable works, not generally accessible. It has itself published, beside its eight Annual Reports and Catalogue of Library, thirteen practical, simple, and useful treatises, written by its members : Hand-books for Visitors to Poor-houses, Hospitals and Insane Asylums ; on Training Schools for Nurses ; on Hospital Construction ; on Loan Systems ; on the Importance of Uniting Individual and Associated Volunteer Efforts in behalf of the Poor, and on other topics. It has furnished plans for the construction of hospitals, and for the improved ventilation of old buildings. It has collected and republished a series of articles, by Miss Octavia Hill, of London, entitled "Homes of the London

Poor." Several of its members have personally examined the best systems of hospital management, of poor law relief, and of charity organization to be found in this country and in Europe. They have sought this information in Liverpool and London; in Boulogne, and Paris, and Mettray; in Elberfeld, and elsewhere.

The Association has held important general meetings, of its own members and others interested in kindred work, for conference and debate. It has held public annual meetings; and has availed itself freely of the generous offers of assistance made by the New York City press, and by the newspapers throughout the State.

As an indication of the esteem in which our work is held by those who know something of its results, we will mention that the Governor of Maryland, in his annual message of January, 1878, commends the reforms made in the poor-houses of the State of New York through the influence of our county visitors, and recommends, as the best means of reforming the alms-houses and prisons of the State of Maryland, the formation of similar "volunteer societies to visit and inspect the condition of the suffering poor." And from three other States we have lately received applications for such of our publications as will best enable those interested to organize similar volunteer associations.

But the best results of the work of the Association can only be estimated indirectly, in the more enlightened views of philanthropy which may be found to-day in the community at large, as compared with those of eight years ago.

OUTLOOK.

We have thus traced the history of the origin of our Association, and of its connection with the State Board of Charities ; and have shown how this connection has been severed by the Board. We have defined the principles which govern our work, and have shown by the results, thus far attained, that those principles are as sound in practice as in theory. We have asked the Legislature to provide some means by which our visitors shall have secured to them a legal right of entrance into our public institutions, to replace that which has been withdrawn from them, and to enable them to continue their work as heretofore. We believe that when the character of our work is better known this request will be granted. Meanwhile, we ask the members of our Visiting Committees, whom we now address, over five hundred and fifty in number, scattered throughout the State, powerful in their earnest devotion to the cause of the poor, the sick and the helpless, to continue their work with their wonted energy and zeal, notifying us at once of any hindrances which may be put in their way.

The objects of our Association remain the same as when it was first organized, and the convictions of the members of the Central Association, as to the methods to be pursued to attain these objects, have only been strengthened by experience. We propose to continue and to extend our work, with the utmost confidence in the value of our volunteer system, and in the ultimate general recognition of the reasonableness and justice of our demands. We ask like faith in the members of our Visiting Committees, and equal loyalty and courage in adhering to the principles which we have shown to be the basis of our work.

Firm in the convictions which are expressed in the foregoing pages, we counsel our Local Visiting Committees to retain their distinctive volunteer character; holding fast their allegiance to the volunteer association which originally inspired their formation, and which has bound them together for the past eight years.

In behalf of the Association,

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER, *Chairman*,
 ABBY HOWLAND WOOLSEY,
 THEODORE W. DWIGHT,
 HENRY C. POTTER,
 FLORENCE BAYARD LOCKWOOD,
 SUSAN M. VAN AMRINGE,
 FRÉDERICK LAW OLMSTED,
 HOWARD POTTER,

Special Committee.

NEW YORK, 6 EAST 14TH STREET,

July, 1880.

MEMBERS
OF THE
State Charities Aid Association.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

OFFICERS.

1880-81.

President.

Miss Louisa Lee Schuyler.
19 W. 31st Street.

Vice-Presidents.

Mr. Howard Potter,
Mrs. William B. Rice,
Mr. Fred. Law Olmsted,
Mrs. d'Orémieulx,
Prof. Theodore W. Dwight,
Mrs. Benoni Lockwood,
Mr. James Gallatin.

Treasurer.

Mr. John Crosby Brown,
6 East 14th Street.

Secretary.

Miss Susan M. Van Amringe.
6 E. 14th Street.

Corresponding Secretary.

Mrs. Joseph Hobson.

Associate Secretary.

Miss S. E. Minton.

Librarian.

Miss Woolsey.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Mrs. William B. Rice, *Chairman*,
17 W. 16th Street.

Miss Louisa Lee Schuyler,
Mr. Howard Potter,
Mr. Fred. Law Olmsted,
Mrs. d'Orémieulx,
Prof. Theodore W. Dwight,
Mrs. Benoni Lockwood,

Mr. James Gallatin,
Mr. John Crosby Brown,
Mrs. Joseph Hobson,
Miss S. E. Minton,
Miss Woolsey,
Mr. Geo. H. Forster,
Dr. W. Gill Wylie,
Rev. R. Heber Newton, 33 E. 83d Street.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

ON CHILDREN.

Mrs. Joseph Hobson, *Chairman*,
119 E. 24th Street.
Mrs. Samuel Colman, *Secretary*,
102 E. 25th Street.
Miss Beck,
Mr. C. L. Brace,
Dr. J. H. Emerson,
Dr. Jacobi,
Mrs. F. K. Jones,
Mr. William Montgomery,
Miss C. A. Newbold,
Miss C. H. Patterson,
Miss Anna Roosevelt,
Mrs. Stephen Smith,
Mrs. D. P. Woodbury,
Mrs. G. Wynkoop.

ON ADULT ABLE-BODIED PAUPERS.

Mr. Geo. H. Forster, *Chairman*,
58 Wall Street.
Mr. John A. McKim, *Vice-Chairman*,
9 W. 48th Street.
Miss E. Redmond, *Secretary*,
6 Washington Square.
Dr. Elisha Harris,
Miss M. C. Hoffman,
Miss Hyde,
Mr. James H. Jones,
Mr. J. F. Kernochan,
Mr. H. B. Livingston,
Mr. Chas. H. Marshall,
Mr. J. H. Robb,
Mr. Buchanan Winthrop.

ON HOSPITALS.

Dr. W. Gill Wylie, *Chairman*,
40 W. 40th Street.
Mrs. d'Orémieux, *Secretary*,
7 Winthrop Place.
Dr. Mark Blumenthal,
Dr. John H. Hinton,
Mrs. Joseph Hobson,
Mrs. L. M. Hoyt,
Dr. William J. Morton,
Dr. Henry S. Norris,
Mr. Carl Pfeiffer,
Rev. H. C. Potter, D.D.,
Mr. J. R. Roosevelt,
Miss Frances Redmond,
Miss Sands,

Dr. Stephen Smith,
Dr. Frank E. Stewart,
Miss Wisner,
Miss Woolsey.

ON THE ELEVATION OF THE POOR
IN THEIR HOMES.

Rev. R. Heber Newton, *Chairman*,
33 E. 83d Street.
Mrs. Benoni Lockwood, *Vice-Chairman*,
357 W. 20th Street.
Miss E. E. Russell, *Secretary*,
126 W. 13th Street.
Mrs. Ethan Allen,
Mr. John Bowne,
Mr. C. L. Brace,
Mr. S. W. Bridgham,
Prof. C. F. Chandler,
Dr. R. H. Derby,
Mrs. A. Frothingham,
Mr. James Gallatin,
Mr. C. C. Haight,
Mr. D. Willis James,
Mr. Clarence King,
Rev. John W. Kramer, M.D.,
Mr. Cadwalader Ogden,
Mr. Jno. R. Paddock,
Mr. Henry E. Pellew,
Mr. Carl Pfeiffer,
Rev. H. C. Potter, D.D.,
Mr. Temple Prime,
Mr. Livingston Roe,
Mrs. W. F. Rowland,
Rev. J. Cotton Smith, D.D.,
Dr. Stephen Smith,
Mr. Alfred T. White,
Mr. Charles F. Wingate.

ON FINANCE.

——— *Chairman*.

Miss Helen C. Butler,
Mrs. Geo. S. Boydoin,
Mrs. J. W. Clendenin,
Mrs. Wm. E. Dodge, Jr.,
Mrs. Joseph Lentilhon,
Mr. Benoni Lockwood,
Mrs. Minturn,
Mr. Alfred Pell,
Mr. Chandler Robbins,
Miss E. Redmond,
Miss Salomon,
Mrs. Wm. H. Schieffelin.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

ON THE ORGANIZATION OF COUNTY
VISITING COMMITTEES.

Mrs. William B. Rice, *Chairman*,
17 W. 16th Street

Miss S. M. Van Amringe,
Miss S. E. Minton,
Miss M. R. Prime.

JOINT COMMITTEE.

To Prepare a Plan for the Co-operation of Organized Charities Engaged in Out-Door Relief
in New York City.

Appointed by Board of United Charities.

Mr. Henry Rice.
Rev. John W. Kramer, M.D.
Mr. Francis A. Stout.

*Appointed by State Charities Aid
Association.*

Miss Louisa Lee Schuyler.
Mr. Fred. Law Olmsted.
Mr. Henry E. Pellew.

ADVISORY MEMBERS.

Dr. C. R. Agnew,
Rev. William Adams, D.D.,
Rev. Samuel Adler, D.D.,
Mr. Thomas C. Acton,
Gen. F. C. Barlow,
Dr. Emily Blackwell,
Rev. H. W. Bellows, D.D.,
Rev. E. H. Chapin, D.D.,
Mr. Joseph H. Choate,
Mr. Geo. Wm. Curtis,
Mr. Lewis L. Delafield,
Mr. Wm. E. Dodge, Jr.,
Dr. Wm. H. Draper,
Mr. Dorman B. Eaton,
Mrs. Cyrus W. Field,
Mrs. Hamilton Fish,
Judge E. L. Fancher,
Dr. Austin Flint,
Mr. E. L. Godkin,
Dr. John F. Gray,
Mrs. Wm. Preston Griffin,
Bishop Harris,
Mr. Abram S. Hewitt,
Mrs. N. P. Hosack,
Mrs. Alex. Hamilton,
Judge Henry E. Howland,

Mrs. R. M. Hudt,
Rev. George F. Krotel,
Mr. Grosvenor P. Lowrey,
Mrs. David Lane,
Mr. Robert J. Livingston,
Rev. D. McGlynn, D.D.,
Mr. L. P. Morton,
Miss Nash,
Prof. J. S. Newberry,
Mr. Charles O'Connor,
Dr. John Ordronaux,
Dr. Willard Parker,
Miss Mary R. Prime,
Mr. James Roosevelt,
Mrs. Lewis M. Rutherford,
Dr. Gouverneur M. Smith,
Mr. Geo. L. Schuyler,
Miss G. Schuyler,
Mr. F. A. Stout,
Mrs. J. A. Swett,
Mrs. Lucius Tuckerman,
Mr. William E. Worthen,
Rev. E. A. Washburn, D.D.,
Rev. W. R. Williams,
Miss Jane Stuart Woolsey.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

England.

Mr. C. B. P. Bosanquet, London,
 Mr. Andrew Doyle, "
 Mr. Danby P. Fry, "
 Col. Lynedoch Gardiner, "
 Mr. Alsager Hay Hill, "
 Miss Florence Hill, "
 Miss Octavia Hill, "
 Sir Baldwin Leighton, Bart., Shrewsbury,
 Mr. C. S. Loch, London,
 Mr. A. J. S. Maddison, London,
 Mr. Wm. Rathbone, M.P., Liverpool,
 Sir Charles Trevelyan, Bart., London,
 Miss Louisa Twining, London.

Ireland.

Mr. W. Neilson Hancock, LL.D., Dublin.

France.

Mme. Pape Carpentier, Paris,
 M. A. Caubert, "
 M. F. Marbeau, "
 Mme. Thiers, "

Germany.

Herr Andreas Prell, Elberfeld,
 Frau Walter Simons, "

United States.

Miss Cary, Boston,
 Miss D. L. Dix, Washington, D. C.,
 Col. Geo. E. Waring, Newport, R. I.

VISITING COMMITTEES.

The President and Secretary of all Visiting Committees are *ex-officio Associate Managers* of this Association, and are entitled to vote at any of its regular meetings. To save space the list of *Associate Members* is omitted.

Albany Co.

Mrs. S. V. Talcott, *Pres't*, 748 Broadway,
 Albany,
 Miss J. Anna Lansing, *Sec'y*, 87 Washing-
 ton Ave., Albany,
 Mrs. Howard Townsend,
 Mrs. Cornelius Ten Broeck,
 Mrs. William Barnes,
 Mrs. James B. Sanders,
 Mrs. Ariel Lathrop,
 Mrs. J. A. Lintner,
 Mrs. Gertrude Pruyn,
 Mrs. William Gourley,
 Mrs. Daniel Lathrop,
 Miss Dempsey,
 Miss Alice Nott,
 Mrs. Arian Safford,
 Mrs. Glassford,
 Miss Fanny Nott,
 Miss Tracey,
 Mrs. Henry March,
 Mrs. Acors Rathbun,
 Mrs. James H. McClure,
 Mrs. Samuel Patten,
 Mrs. Theodore Humphrey,
 Mrs. Wm. Rice,
 Mrs. Charles A. Robertson,
 Miss Mary Roberts,
 Mrs. Lewis Rathbone,
 Mrs. James M. Warner,
 Mrs. George B. Steele,

Mrs. James Kidd,
 Mrs. Arthur Bott,
 Mrs. C. P. Williams,

Advisory Members.

Mr. Archibald McClure,
 Mr. David Thompson,
 Mr. Charles Tracey,
 Mr. Theodore Townsend,
 Rev. Charles Reynolds.

* Cayuga Co.

Mrs. J. W. Wilkie, *Pres't*, Auburn,
 Mrs. S. C. Crossman,
 Mrs. H. G. Thornton, } *Vice-Pres'ts.*
 Mrs. James Seymour, Jr., }

Columbia Co.

Mrs. H. O. Howland, *Pres't*, Chatham
 Village,
 Miss Harriet Wheeler, *Sec'y*, Chatham Vil-
 lage,
 Mr. G. R. Percy,
 Mrs. G. R. Percy,
 Mr. George T. Powell,
 Mrs. George T. Powell,
 Miss Minnie Angell,
 Miss L. C. Tracy,
 Mrs. Jacob Shaver,
 Mrs. Samuel Moffatt,
 Mr. William Angell,
 Mrs. William Angell,

* A full list of this Committee has not been received.

Mrs. J. A. Fish,
Mrs. Charles Bell,
Mrs. Rufus King.

Delaware Co.

Rev. E. B. Russell, *Pres't*, Delhi,
Miss Katherine A. Foote, *Sec'y*, Delhi,
Mrs. Elizabeth Shepherd,
Mrs. William Seameans,
Mrs. C. A. Frost,
Mr. M. Stilson,
Mr. C. A. Foote.

Dutchess Co.

Mrs. Milton Ham, *Pres't*, Washington Hollow,
Mr. Richard H. Mitchell, *Sec'y*, Washington Hollow,
Mr. Edwin Thorne,
Mrs. Rhoda A. Swift,
Rev. Henry N. Cobb,
Mrs. Henry N. Cobb,
Mrs. Richard H. Mitchell,
Mr. Justus C. Haviland,
Mrs. Justus C. Haviland,
Mr. Richard Carpenter,
Mrs. Richard Carpenter,
Mr. Homer Wheaton,
Mr. R. G. Coffin,
Miss Fanny Haight,
Miss. A. M. Van Zandt,
Mr. Henry Swift,
Mrs. Henry Swift.

Essex Co.

Mrs. Francis L. Lee, *Pres't*, Westport,
Mrs. A. A. Richards, *Vice-Pres't*, Westport,
Mrs. William G. Hunter, *Sec'y*, Westport,
Mrs. S. F. Dickinson, *Cor. Sec'y*, Westport,
Mrs. James A. Allen,
Mr. F. H. Page,
Mrs. F. H. Page,
Rev. H. C. Lyon,
Mrs. H. C. Lyon,
Dr. S. F. Dickinson,
Col. Francis L. Lee,
Mr. F. S. Witherbee,
Rev. C. N. Wilder,
Mrs. C. N. Wilder,
Rev. E. J. Guernsey,
Mrs. E. J. Guernsey.

Greene Co.

Rev. Robert Weeks, *Pres't*, Catskill,
Mrs. Henry Hopkins, *Sec'y*, Catskill,
Rev. B. B. Gibbs,
Mrs. Lindsley Beach,
Mr. Henry G. Hadden,

Mrs. Henry G. Hadden,
Mr. William Van Orden,
Miss Mary L. Van Orden,
Mrs. John B. Thompson,
Miss Jane V. Hopkins,
Mr. Jeremiah Day,
Mrs. Jeremiah Day, Jr.,
Miss Jane T. Penfield,
Miss Rachel Salisbury,
Mrs. Anna Fitch,
Mrs. Isaac Pruyn,
Mrs. Manly B. Maltice,
Mrs. John Griswold,
Mr. James B. Olney,
Mrs. James B. Olney,
Miss Julia Day,
Mrs. Orrin Day,
Dr. Charles E. Willard,
Mrs. Samuel T. Penfield,
Mrs. Edward Selleck.

Jefferson Co.

Mrs. E. B. Wynne, *Pres't*, Watertown,
Mrs. J. F. Harbottle, *Vice-Pres't*,
Mr. George B. Hanford, *Treas.*,
Mr. E. Q. Sewall, *Sec'y*, Watertown,
Mrs. B. Thornton,
Mrs. L. R. Brewer,
Mrs. P. Mundy,
Mrs. A. H. Sawyer,
Mrs. W. V. V. Rosa,
Mrs. G. Smith,
Mrs. G. Hanford,
Mrs. Chas. Goodale,
Mrs. T. A. Graves,
Mrs. Elisha Eames,
Mrs. E. Q. Sewall,
Rev. L. R. Brewer,
Mr. A. R. Flower.

Kings Co.

Mrs. J. S. T. Stranahan, *Pres't*, 269 Union St., Brooklyn,
Mrs. Fisher Howe, } *Vice-Pres'ts*,
Mr. D. C. Robbins, }
Mrs. John Vanderbilt, *Cor. Sec'y*, Flatbush,
Miss Dora Robinson, *Rec. Sec'y*,
Mrs. A. Forman, *Treas.*,
Mrs. John W. Bergen,
Mrs. G. T. Edeler,
Mrs. M. S. Culbertson,
Mrs. A. J. Perry,
Mrs. A. F. Porter,
Mrs. Strybing,
Mrs. Willis Gaylord,
Mrs. W. M. Benedict,
Mrs. J. H. Hull,
Mrs. Frank Phillips,
Mrs. I. Ladd,
Mrs. H. S. Anderson,

Mrs. B. F. Tracy,
Miss Post,
Mrs. A. R. Frothingham,
Mrs. Edward Low,
Mrs. William Brooks,
Mrs. E. S. Sandford,
Mrs. A. E. Page,
Mrs. J. B. Hutchinson,
Mrs. Cross,
Mrs. Margaret Page,
Mr. Silas D. Scudder,
Mrs. Edwin Holmes,
Mrs. W. M. Cummings,
Mrs. Boynton,
Mrs. D. T. Leverich,
Mrs. M. A. Howland,
Miss J. Keese,
Mrs. S. M. Kellogg,
Mrs. J. G. Wilbur,
Mrs. Dr. Ormiston,
Miss A. J. Vallant,
Dr. Bartlett,
Mr. S. H. Camp,
Archibald Campbell, M.D.,
Miss Kate Crane,
Mrs. John Lewis,
Mrs. R. A. Manning,
Mrs. William Moses,
Mrs. H. B. Douglass,
Mrs. Emil Magnus,
Mrs. Ripley Ropes,
Miss Lucy Huntington,
Mrs. Stevenson,
Mrs. D. B. Kirby,
Mrs. Williams,
Mrs. Gustavus Brett,
Mrs. James D. Carhart,
Mrs. Preston,
Mrs. G. C. Wood,
Mrs. Richardson,
Mrs. A. C. Fields,
Mrs. Archibald Baxter,
Mrs. S. C. Griggs,
Mrs. C. A. Silver,
Mrs. A. Forman,
Mrs. J. Aikman,
Miss Lane.

Livingston Co.

Rev. Wm. Coale, *Pres't*, Geneseo,
Miss Elizabeth North, *Sec'y*, Geneseo,
Miss Matilda Piffard,
Mrs. Charles F. Wadsworth,
Mrs. B. Ayrault,
Mrs. A. D. Smith,
Dr. W. E. Lauderdale,
Mr. Austin W. Wadsworth,
F. De Witt Ward, D.D.

Monroe Co.

Prof. A. H. Miner, *Pres't*, Rochester,
Miss R. B. Long, *Rec. Sec'y*,

Mrs. A. Morse, *Cor. Sec'y*, Rochester,
Mrs. J. L. Angle,
Mrs. M. M. Matthews,
Miss E. Hall,
Dr. A. Mandeville,
Mrs. L. Farrar,
Hon. H. E. Rochester.

New York Co.

I. BELLEVUE AND OTHER PUBLIC HOSPITALS.

Mrs. Joseph Hobson, *Pres't*, 119 E. 24th St.,
Mrs. L. M. Hoyt, *Vice-Pres't*, 26 Washington Sq.,
Miss E. Tuckerman, *Sec'y*, 220 Madison Ave.,
Mrs. David Lane,
Mrs. H. D. Fellowes,
Miss F. Redmond,
Mrs. Wm. H. Osborn,
Mrs. Wm. Preston Griffin,
Mrs. Alexander Hamilton,
Mrs. John A. Swett,
Mrs. T. M. Adams,
Mrs. D. P. Woodbury,
Miss S. T. Sands,
Miss E. D. Bininger,
Miss Bettner,
Miss Hicks,
Miss Cornell,
Mrs. William Astor,
Mrs. William P. Lee,
Miss Bininger,
Mrs. J. M. Fairchild,
Mrs. F. A. Hall,
Mrs. A. G. Paine,
Mrs. Julian James,
Mrs. A. Brayton Ball,
Mrs. J. A. Boorman,
Miss Fellowes,
Mrs. Julius Catlin Jr.,
Mrs. G. F. Corbiere,
Mrs. Fred. W. Harriman,
Mrs. Joseph Knapp,
Col. S. B. Lawrence,
Mrs. J. W. Kendall,
Mrs. Banning,
Mrs. Hitchcock,
Miss Sylvia Livingstone,
Miss M. P. Huntington,
Mrs. F. R. Jones,
Miss Hornor.

Advisory Members.

Mr. Henry Bergh,
Miss L. M. Baxter,
Mrs. D. G. Bacon,
Miss Rosalie Butler,
Mrs. Henry A. Coit,
Mr. J. H. Choate,

Mrs. d'Orémieux,
 Mrs. Robert Gracie,
 Mrs. G. G. Howland,
 Mrs. Morris K. Jesup,
 Mr. Clarence King,
 Mr. Edward Leverich,
 Mrs. Macaulay,
 Miss Fanny Morris,
 Mrs. A. G. Norwood,
 Mr. Thomas Newbold,
 Mrs. S. C. Ogden,
 Mrs. Henry E. Pellew,
 Miss Prime,
 Mr. G. A. Robbins,
 Mr. James Roosevelt,
 Mr. Philip Schuyler,
 Mr. D. Lydig Suydam,
 Mr. A. G. Sedgwick,
 Mrs. Jonathan Sturgis,
 Mrs. Lucius Tuckerman,
 Miss E. Van Rensselaer,
 Miss S. Van Amringe,
 Mr. W. E. Worthen.

2. RANDALL'S ISLAND.

Miss C. H. Patterson, *Pres't*, 30 W. 30th Street,
 Mrs. G. H. Wynkoop, *Sec'y*, 5 E. 13th St.,
 Mrs. T. J. Young, Jr.,
 Mrs. J. R. Gracie,
 Miss Anna Roosevelt.

3. WORKHOUSE, BLACKWELL'S ISLAND.

Mr. W. H. Newell, *Sec'y*, 115 E. 26th St.,
 Mr. Meredith L. Jones.

4. ALMSHOUSE, BLACKWELL'S ISLAND.

F. E. Stewart, M.D.,
 Miss Josephine Wisner, *Sec'y*, 18 W. 12th Street,
 Miss Hornor,
 Miss E. A. Oakley,
 Miss C. B. Townsend,
 Mr. James B. Dill.

5. BOOKS AND NEWSPAPERS.

Mrs. Francis C. Barlow, *Pres't*, 118 E. 30th St.,
 Mr. Alfred Pell, *Treas.*, 46 E. 35th St.,
 Miss H. L. Robbins, *Sec'y*, 116 W. 21st St.,
 Miss L. L. Schuyler,
 Miss G. B. Schuyler,
 Miss Mary Harvey,
 Miss Alice Lyon,
 Rev. Marinus Willett,
 Rev. Mr. French,
 Mr. Wm. H. Cary, Jr.

Orange Co.

NEWBURGH.—SOCIETY FOR IMPROVING THE
 CONDITION OF THE POOR.

Mrs. Laura M. Fellows, *Pres't*,
 Miss Rebecca St. John, *Treas.*,
 Mrs. Wm. A. Culbert,
 Mrs. Warren Delano,
 Mrs. Admiral Strong,
 Mrs. Dr. Garrison,
 Mr. William W. Carson,
 Rev. William Hall,
 Rev. Octavius Applegate,
 Rev. Dr. Carlisle.

GOSHEN.

Miss Martha Wisner, *Pres't*, Goshen,
 Miss Mary E. Grier, *Sec'y*, Goshen,
 Mrs. Gedney.

Otsego Co.

Rev. Chas. McHarg, *Pres't*, Cooperstown,
 Dr. Lathrop,
 Miss Susan F. Cooper,
 Mr. W. W. Phinney,
 Mr. A. H. Palmer.

Putnam Co.

Rev. Matthew A. Bailey, *Pres't*, Carmel,
 Miss Julia R. Livingston, *Sec'y*, Carmel,
 Miss Martha Barnes,
 Miss Lavinia Ludington,
 Mrs. John G. Miller,
 Mrs. Jonathan Cole,
 Mrs. Benj. D. Crane,
 Mrs. Foster Kelly,
 Rev. D. Du Bois Sahler,
 Mrs. D. Du Bois Sahler,
 Rev. W. S. Clapp,
 Miss Clara O. Hobby,
 Miss Mary D. Ga Nun,
 Mr. B. C. Ga Nun,
 Miss Julia Travis,
 Mr. Abram J. Miller,
 Mrs. Isaac Kelly.

Queens Co.

Mr. Wm. H. Onderdonk, *Pres't*, Great Neck,
 Miss Cornelia King, *Vice-Pres't*, Jamaica,
 Miss Maria S. Spooner, *Sec'y*, Hempstead,
 Mrs. James R. Willets,
 Miss Kate M. Riddell,
 Mr. Edwin A. Hopkins,
 Mrs. Edwin A. Hopkins,
 Mrs. Delia Smith,
 Rev. Franklin Noble,
 Mrs. Franklin Noble,
 Mrs. George W. Bergen,

Mrs. Peter C. Barnum,
 Mr. Richard M. Bowne,
 Mrs. Richard M. Bowne,
 Mrs. A. E. Lawrence,
 Rev. Samuel Cox,
 Rev. Washington Rodman,
 Miss Henrietta Titus,
 Mrs. G. W. Smith,
 Mr. John Keese,
 Mrs. John Keese,
 Mr. Benjamin D. Hicks,
 Mr. Gabriel W. Williams,
 Dr. James D. Trask,
 Mr. Peter P. Franklin,
 Mr. Edward H. Seaman,
 Mrs. Edward H. Seaman,
 Mr. A. N. Weller,
 Mr. Isaac H. Cocks,
 Mrs. Isaac H. Cocks,
 Mrs. Isaac S. Willets,
 Mrs. E. A. Hopkins,
 Mrs. C. M. Cole,
 Miss G. D. Onderdonk,
 Miss Addie S. Weeks,
 Miss Kate Post,
 Mrs. Dr. S. Tredwell,
 Mrs. Horace Prior,
 Rev. Wm. H. Moore,
 Mrs. Wm. H. Moore,
 Miss Eliza Salt,
 Miss Anna Clowes,
 Mrs. E. Hinds,
 Dr. C. H. Ludlum,
 Rev. O. E. Cobb,
 Mr. Robert B. Parsons,
 Mr. Robert Willets,
 Miss Annie A. Cornell,
 Miss Phebe Rushmore,
 Miss Mary R. King,
 Rev. G. W. Smith,
 Mrs. G. W. Smith,
 Dr. C. H. Barker,
 Mrs. Charles W. Mulford,
 Dr. Samuel Cox,
 Mr. Chas. Lever,
 Mrs. Coles Carman,
 Mrs. A. Tredwell,
 Mr. Peter P. Franklin.

Rensselaer Co.

Mr. J. J. Tillinghast, *Pres't*, Troy,
 Dr. E. J. Fisk, *Sec'y*, Troy,
 Mrs. R. H. McClellan,
 Mrs. Joseph Hillman,
 Mrs. Jno. A. Griswold,
 Mrs. Joseph B. Carr,
 Mrs. William E. Gilbert,
 Mrs. William H. Fish,
 Mrs. Eleanor Young,
 Mrs. Geo. L. Willard,
 Miss Phebe S. Griffith,

Mr. George Harrison,
 Mr. Henry H. Darling.

Richmond Co.

Rev. J. S. Bush, *Pres't*, West New Brighton,
 Mrs. M. L. Harrison, *Sec'y*, West New Brighton,
 Mrs. J. M. Martin,
 Mrs. C. R. Lowell,
 Rev. J. M. Greene,
 Miss Libcey,
 Mrs. Nicoll Floyd,
 Mrs. J. H. Creighton,
 Mrs. S. H. Gay,
 Mrs. G. W. Curtis,
 Miss M. L. Whitemore,
 Mrs. C. A. Moore,
 Mrs. P. Meigs,
 Mrs. J. W. Winmill,
 Mrs. J. Blatchford,
 Miss S. Banks,
 Miss L. M. Smith,
 Mr. Wm. Martin,
 Mrs. Vermeule,
 Mrs. W. A. Collins,
 Mrs. N. M. Heal,
 Rev. George Johnston,
 Mrs. H. Childs,
 Mrs. S. V. Vedder,
 Miss H. R. Drew,
 Mrs. R. Robinson,
 Miss E. R. Henderson,
 Mrs. W. T. Johnson,
 Mrs. Bagley,
 Miss Disosway,
 Miss Haskell,
 Mrs. Eadie,
 Miss Barrett,
 Mr. E. B. Merrill,
 Mr. Theodore C. Leeds.

Rockland Co.

Mrs. William Duryea, Monsey.

St. Lawrence Co.

Miss F. L. Harison, *Pres't*, Potsdam,
 Miss Hasbrouck, } *Vice-Pres'ts*.
 Mr. Ellsworth, }
 Mr. T. Streatfield Clarkson, *Sec'y*, Potsdam,
 Mr. Charles J. Hines,
 Mrs. Eliza M. Ames,
 Mrs. Miriam Sawyer,
 Miss Mary A. Knapp.

Schenectady Co.

Mrs. Robert Lowell, *Pres't*, Schenectady,
 Mrs. George Curtis,
 Mrs. Simon Vedder,
 Mrs. Charles Thompson,

Mrs. Charles E. Angle,
Rev. Robert Lowell.

Schoharie Co.

Mrs. R. W. Lasher, *Pres't*, Schoharie
Court House,
Mrs. A. A. Hunt, *Sec'y*, Schoharie Court
House,
Mrs. John Morrison,
Mrs. N. L. Merrill,
Mrs. Albert Brown,
Mrs. Russell Brown,
Mrs. Abner Taylor,
Mrs. M. L. Schaeffer.

Sullivan Co.

Rev. Jno. P. Scott, *Pres't*, Monticello,
Rev. David Phillips, *Sec'y*, Monticello,
Mrs. Jno. P. Scott,
Mrs. David Phillips,
Mr. James Strong,
Mrs. James Strong,
Mrs. S. B. Stoddard,
Hon. C. V. R. Ludington,
Mr. Eli Fairchild,
Mrs. Eli Fairchild,
Prof. Snook,
Mrs. Snook,
Mr. W. H. Cady.

Tompkins Co.

Mrs. C. M. Titus, *Pres't*, Ithaca,
Miss Jane L. Hardy, *Sec'y*, Ithaca,
Prof. T. H. Potter,
Mrs. D. F. Finck,
Mrs. Wilmot,
Mrs. T. Bostwick,
Mrs. D. B. Stewart,
Prof. W. C. Russell,
Mrs. A. D. White,
Rev. C. M. Tyler,
Mrs. Geo. W. Apgar,
Mrs. E. J. Morgan,
Mrs. D. C. Hayen,
Mrs. J. H. Selkieg,
Mrs. C. Williams,
Mrs. G. McChain,
Mrs. E. Treman,
Mrs. S. H. Peck,
Mr. E. T. Turner,
Mrs. J. B. Sprague,
Mrs. Hant,
Mr. S. Stoddard,

Miss M. Higgins,
Mrs. G. Phillips.

Ulster Co.

Rev. Dr. Waters, *Pres't*, Kingston,
Mrs. Geo. H. Sharpe, }
Mr. S. L. Stebbins, } *Vice-Pres'ts*,
Mr. Theodore Spore, }
Mr. L. L. Crounse, }
Miss Forsyth, }
Mr. S. B. Forsyth, *Sec'y*, Kingston,
Mrs. Wm. B. Fitch,
Mrs. T. J. R. Clarke,
Miss McEntee,
Mr. T. A. Waters,
Mr. Jas. S. McEntee,
Miss Wynkoop,
Mrs. H. H. Reynolds,
Mrs. J. Hardenburgh,
Mrs. C. Hardenburgh,
Mrs. Judge Schoonmaker,
Mrs. Edward Tompkins,
Mrs. E. B. Newkirk,
Mrs. Geo. B. Hibbard,
Mrs. Jas. Booth,
Mrs. J. McCausland.

Westchester Co.

Mr. Fred. W. Guiteau, *Pres't*, Irvington,
Mrs. Frank Vincent, *Vice-Pres't*, Tarry-
town,
Miss Emily O. Butler, Hartsdale,
Mrs. Edward B. Cobb,
Mr. J. B. Foster,
Mrs. W. I. Haines,
Mr. S. P. Holmes,
Mrs. E. Lane,
Miss B. A. Whitlock,
Mrs. Roswell Skeele,
Mrs. John T. Terry,
Mrs. H. R. Worthington,
Mr. John Rockwell,
Mr. E. L. Hermance,
Mrs. Stephen H. Thayer.

Yates Co.

Mrs. S. B. Ayres, *Pres't*, Penn Yan,
Mrs. A. W. Franklin, } *Vice-Pres'ts*,
Mrs. B. N. Long, }
Mrs. Wm. Calleton, *Rec. Sec'y*,
Mrs. E. W. Mills, *Cor. Sec'y*,
Mrs. George Bruen, *Treas.*

PUBLICATIONS
OF THE
State Charities Aid Association

To be obtained at the office of the Association.

6 East 14th Street, New York.

[Annual Reports furnished gratuitously.]

- No. 1. Report of the Committee on Hospitals upon a Training School for Nurses to be attached to Bellevue Hospital, 1872. Price, 15 cents.
- No. 2. First Annual Report of the Association to the State Commissioners of Public Charities of the State of New York, March 1, 1873.
- No. 3. Questions relating to Poor-houses, Hospitals, and Insane Asylums, prepared for the Use of Visiting Committees, by John Ordronaux, M.D., 1874. (*Out of print.*)
- No. 4. Report of the Special Committee appointed to take active measures in regard to the erection of a new Bellevue Hospital, 1874. Price, 10 cents.
- No. 5. Second Annual Report of the Association to the State Board of Charities of the State of New York, March 1, 1874.
- No. 6. First Annual Report of the Committee on Children, 1874. Price, 10 cents. (*Out of print.*)
- No. 7. Third Annual Report of the Association to the New York State Board of Charities, March 1, 1875.
- No. 8. Homes of the London Poor, by Miss Octavia Hill, 1875. Price, 25 cents.
- No. 9. Suggestions for the Use of Committees on Children, 1875. (*Out of print.*)
- No. 10. Fourth Annual Report of the Association to the New York State Board of Charities, March 1, 1876.
- No. 11. A Century of Nursing, with Hints toward the Organization of a Training School, by a member of the Hospital Committee, 1876. Price, 50 cents.
- No. 12. Handbook for Visitors to the Poor-house, edited by a Special Committee, Frederick Law Olmsted, Chairman, 1877. Price, 25 cents.
- No. 13. Handbook for Hospital Visitors, 1877. Price, paper, 30 cents; cloth, 50 cents. (*Out of print.*)
- No. 14. Fifth Annual Report of the Association to the New York State Board of Charities, March 1, 1877.
- No. 15. Report upon Loan Systems, 1878. Price, 15 cents.
- No. 16. The Sanitary Rights of Dwellers in Tenement Houses in New York City and Brooklyn. (Handbook for the use of Visitors to the Poor.) Price, 5 cents.
- No. 17. Sixth Annual Report of the Association to the New York State Board of Charities, March 1, 1878. (*Out of print.*)
- No. 18. Importance of Uniting Individual and Associated Volunteer Effort in behalf of the Poor, by Miss Schuyler, 1878. Price, 15 cents.
- No. 19. Seventh Annual Report of the Association to the New York State Board of Charities, April, 1879. (*Out of print.*)
- No. 20. Catalogue of Library of the State Charities Aid Association, January, 1880.
- No. 21. Hospital Laundries, for the use of Local Visiting Committees, 1880.
- No. 22. Suggestions for the use of Visitors to the Insane, being a brief essay on the Cure and Care of Insane Patients, 1880. Price, 20 cents.
- No. 23. Eighth Annual Report of the Association, April, 1880.
- No. 24. Address from the State Charities Aid Association to its Local Visiting Committees, July, 1880. Price, 10 cents.